

EDITORIALS

Sharing the Wealth

Recent developments within the city point up sharply that the threat of government gobbling up areas which belong rightfully in private hands is not confined to the so-called federal power grabs.

It's happening right here at home.

One case in point is this week's action of the council in agreeing "in principal" to a joint powers agreement whereby the city would enter into an equipment rental contract with nearby cities. Under the terms of the proposal submitted to the council by City Manager George Stevens, Torrance and its neighbors in the South Bay would enter into a contract whereby machinery, personnel, and other city facilities could be used on a rental basis in other than emergency situations.

It is easy to see the value of such an agreement to a city like Redondo Beach, whose finances in recent years could at least be called shaky. What it would probably mean for Torrance, however, is that this city would be in the renting business, competing against established, tax-paying, independent firms who have invested their own money in the purchase of such equipment and have it available for rentals if needed.

We suspect our neighbors on the bay are chuckling covertly over the fact that they probably put one over on the Torrance council with their share-the-wealth-plan. But Torrance taxpayers who have made this equipment available to the city of Torrance should not be asked to underwrite an equipment rental program to help their less fortunate neighbors. Wear and tear on the equipment rented will hasten the day when local taxpayers have to put up money for replacements.

The argument that such a program has a mutual benefit to the cities is hard to understand—after all, Torrance doesn't need Hermosa's political unrest, or Redondo's well-oiled political machine, and that's about all either have to offer.

Another case which points up the city's hungry desire to take over private business concerns water. In two cases, the city has moved to wipe out private water company holdings within the city, and a long series of skirmishes with other firms have marked recent activities on the water front.

A large development planned for west Torrance was withdrawn by the proponents last week when the city refused to approve it except with the stipulation that the developer disregard private easements which he Dominguez Water Co. has held for many years and agree to service the area with Torrance water.

The city will probably wind up in court on this one—at a cost to the taxpayers of several thousands of dollars.

Another Dominguez Water Co. dispute already has cost the city more than \$26,000 in fees to one attorney in Los Angeles for preparation of a case before the Public Utilities Commission. The city is sparing no expense in its effort to end whatever rights the private water company has within the city.

Still another is the gun-to-the-head manner in which the city decided to settle the problems arising in the area of south Torrance served by the Narbonne Water Co. No. 3.

The council stopped all building and ordered an involuntary assessment district formed. The people weren't asked whether they wanted such an arrangement. They're going to get a new city water system (which they will pay for) regardless of their wishes in the matter.

State ownership of resources and tools of production is the socialists' way. We have enough already without encouraging it on the local level.

LAW IN ACTION

Search and Seizure

People are "to be secure in person, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures."

"No warrants shall issue," our constitution goes on to say, "but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the person or thing to be seized."

This basic right should hold as against most forces of tyranny — and the midnight knock on the door.

The state constitution, backed in the recent "Cahan" case by the California Supreme Court, says much the same thing.

Important as catching and punishing a criminal may be, the court said, no unreasonable searches and seizures are justified. "All people, the guilty and the innocent alike," the court says, "should be secure from unreasonable police intrusions, even though some criminals should escape."

Until a few years ago in California, the prosecution could convict a person on unlawfully obtained evidence. If it proved his guilt, the courts held, society gained anyhow. But now both California and the federal courts, too, ban such evidence.

The Supreme Court has said that by keeping it out of court "officers will be impelled to obey the law themselves," since barring such evidence will defeat their purpose. Why get evidence they cannot use in court?

This decision has created problems of law enforcement. But to this objection the Supreme Court says: "It is morally incongruous for the state to flout constitutional rights and at the same time demand that its citizens observe the law."

The Cahan case has become famous because of the controversy it has stirred up. While in case after case our courts are working out in detail what is and what is not "unlawful search and seizure," there are also proposals for the legislature to spell out the answers in the statutes.

Note: California lawyers offer this column so you may know about our laws.

STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. POLLAN
Your Daily Activity Guide

According to the Stars.
To develop message for Sunday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

ARIES APR. 20 2-8-14-20 22-23-29	1 Early 2 Rest 3 Today 4 You 5 Delays 6 Marks 7 You 8 Today 9 Will 10 Set 11 Luck's 12 A	21 Pace 22 Health 23 Conquer 24 And 25 Delays 26 Possible 27 Delays 28 Encounter 29 Delays 30 Possible 31 Today	61 Your 62 Extra 63 Conquer 64 For 65 Delays 66 Tonight 67 Solid 68 Rest 69 Be 70 Suitable 71 Joint 72 Work 73 Better 74 Effort 75 You 76 You 77 Dealings 78 Forward 79 Like 80 With 81 And 82 Others 83 Your 84 Agreeable 85 Privacy 86 Domestic 87 Diet 88 Associates 89 Environment 90 May	SEPT. 23 7-10-13-31 52-55-66	LIBRA OCT. 23 7-10-13-31 52-55-66	NOV. 22 5-9-30-54 62-68-81-85	SAGITTARIUS NOV. 23 7-10-36-57 71-74-88-90	DEC. 23 3-6-19-22 27-41-78	CAPRICORN DEC. 23 3-6-19-22 27-41-78	JAN. 20 11-16-18-46 48-58-63	AQUARIUS JAN. 21 11-16-18-46 48-58-63	FEB. 19 11-16-18-46 48-58-63	PISCES FEB. 20 11-16-18-46 48-58-63
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Good Adverse Neutral

Back Door



When Is a City a Dead One?

A woman I interviewed this week called Torrance "a dead town." She claimed that when a person wanted to have fun they were forced to go elsewhere in search of entertainment. She deplored the limited number of motion picture theaters, restaurants, and other public amusement facilities.

Maybe she has a point. Maybe we could support more showplaces. I won't argue there. Because it all depends on what you call fun. But I cannot agree that Torrance is a dead town. I think the very absence of large numbers of places to gather for passive entertainment has resulted in a populace that is so busy making its own fun they don't have time to think about "being entertained."

To me the liveliness of a community can't be counted by the number of neon lights or the highball glasses in the dishwasher of public eating places. The personality of the city is the composite of personalities of the people who live in that city.

When a Sunday morning begins with a pancake breakfast of a tribe of Indian Guides and their families in a park, is a city dead? When Tuesday or Wednesday or Thursday nights mean mosaic classes at Civic Center or lodge meetings or heated discussions on great books, is a city dead? When Saturday night means a backyard barbecue with the neighbors, or a beach party, or a charity dance, is a city dead?

When a newcomer is invited to share coffee with persons who were strangers a week before, is a city dead? When people constantly gather to exchange ideas — be it in Bermuda shorts over morning coffee or in the formal setting of an evening classroom — can a city die? Isn't it the constant sharing of ideas among men — and women — what keeps an individual or a group a vital growing entity?

In a city of lonely people in close quarters where not

talking to one's neighbor guarantees one's privacy, where people are forced to seek diversion outside of themselves. There the movie theaters, the night club, perhaps even the gambling casinos must flourish. The souls that their recreation in rubbing elbows with the unknown crowd.

But behind the empty sound of clinking glasses and the glaring gaiety of the neon lights, the laughter of the strangers whose lives cross for one evening is hollow.

Let those who would be spectators of life spend their dollars and laugh in their nights clubs, and call Torrance "dead." I'll settle for the sound of laughter of the children romping on the hill-sides of Torrance and the smell of burgers at the backyard barbecue and the feel of the sand in my hair and the sun baking on my shoulders as I trudge up the path towards the street after a day in the ocean at Torrance beach. And I'll thank God for the privilege of enjoying life here with all my senses.

In Years Gone By

Twenty years ago this week, according to the HERALD files of April 19, 1939, Torrance police and firemen were working on clues to the cause of a fire at the city yard at Western Ave., which had resulted in \$100 worth of damage. From a handful of evidence, they deduced that thieves had been siphoning gas from a truck into cans when a spark suddenly ignited, causing them to retreat to their car parked in El Prado.

A series of public forums to deal with local and national problems to be discussed by prominent speakers was set up by Torrance Evening High School to be held for four consecutive Monday nights. Question and answer sessions were slated to follow the forum discussions.

Grover C. Whyte, publisher of the HERALD at that time was asked that week by the National Editorial Assn. to serve as judge in the association's contest for "the most outstanding edition for daily newspapers in 1939 in the United States." He received the invitation after the HERALD received a first prize trophy from the California Newspaper Publishers' Assn. for the best special edition published by daily and weekly newspapers in 1938. As a result of the honor, requests for copies of the "Torrance-On-The-Air" edition continued to be received from all over the country and abroad.

Two strawberry ranchers who hid the smallest berries beneath a top-dressing of large ripe strawberries were fined \$100 by City Judge Robert Lessing, who suspended \$90 of each fine on condition that the two growers were not arrested

Thomas Delong, chief boilerman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mel Rigby of 22426 Normandie Ave., and husband of the former Miss Dorothy A. Jones of Plymouth, Pa., is serving aboard the destroyer USS Somers which was commissioned April 3 at the Naval Shipyard, Boston, Mass.

The Somers, latest of the "Sherman" class destroyers, will join the U.S. Pacific Fleet after a rugged shakedown cruise. The cruise, undertaken by all new Navy ships, is a period in which the crew is put through all types of drills, from gunnery to engineering, while at sea.

Robert L. Kelly, son of Mrs. Myrtle E. Kelly of 16332 Lomita Blvd., Harbor City, graduated from recruit training April 10 at the Naval Training Center, San Diego.

The graduation exercises, marking the end of nine weeks of "boot camp," included a full dress parade and review before military officials and civilian dignitaries.

Robert D. Long, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Sauer, 1364 W. Pacific Coast Hwy., Lomita, was graduated from recruit training April 10, at the Naval Training Center, San Diego.

Tax Agents Can Still Chuckle

When Gene Alford of Harvey Aluminum was in New York on business recently, he decided to call home and see how things were going.

He called his wife, Lori, and asked cheerily, "Hi, honey! What are you doing—the housework?"

Gene was in trouble. It was 7 a.m. in New York, so he figured it would be 10 a.m. here. He was going the wrong way—it was 4 a.m. here.

We understand that Gene and Lori had a nice chat, anyway.

The deadline for filing income tax returns has passed, but the boys in the various Bureau of Internal Revenue office are still gleaning prize notes from confused taxpayers.

But none of them top the one the obviously anxious man told a sympathetic revenue agent the other day. It went something like this: About the middle of February he had spent an evening browsing through his records and was beginning to fill out his 1040 for the year when he realized that he was going to owe some additional tax over and above what had been withheld from his salary.

He then began jotting down any figures that came to his mind, dreaming how he could reduce his tax if he had done this or that... if he had contributed a tenth of his earnings to his church instead of the meager amounts he actually gave... if he had actually given as much to the Red Cross as he would have liked.

Finally, when his dreaming had resulted in an imaginary refund of every cent of tax withheld from his salary, he laid the papers aside and went to bed.

A few days later, his ements...

Last the boys heard he was

still trying to get his return back on the right track.

Another agent was startled on receiving a reply from a taxpayer who had failed to file an information return. Scrawled across the form was the statement, "I have been dead for almost a year."

Another taxpayer wrote a note asking, "If an undertaker goes to a convention in Atlantic City, is the expense deductible even though he doesn't expect to meet any player sent him on an extended business trip that lasted until the end of March. During his absence, his wife, believing that March 15 was the deadline, discovered his 'dream Form 1040' and the other papers. She placed everything in an envelope and mailed it to the Internal Revenue Service.

What could he do, he asked the revenue agent.

His mind was set at ease for a moment when the agent told him he could file an amended return by filling out a correct 1040 and marking it "Amended."

Then he remembered that his wife had sent in all his papers — receipts, canceled checks, and withholding statements?

Still another wanted to know what the discount was

for filing early.

A young woman visited a district office for help in preparing her return. Early in the conversation with the assisting agent, she said she was not married. A moment or two later, however, she claimed two dependent children as exemptions. "Didn't you say you were single," the agent asked. "I am," she said. "Can't a girl make a mistake once in awhile?"

The same agent talked to another woman who claimed 15 dependent children. He questioned the claim, and the next day she returned to his desk with all 15, by age steps, lined up behind her clear to the door. He allowed her claim.

A mousy little man showed up at one of the offices and in response to a statement of balance due on his tax return and asked to see "the man in charge of the lay-away department."

Right behind him was a cute young lady who was questioned about who supported her if her parents didn't. After a whispered discussion with her escort, she replied, "I'd rather not go into that."

Opinions of Others

The budget is for \$77 billion. That's a lot of cash. Just what a billion dollars is can be illustrated best by comparisons. If it cost \$4000 for a college education, one billion dollars would pay for 200,000 students for the entire four years. In a washer or other household machine costing \$200, one billion dollars would buy 5,000,000 of 'em. But Uncle Sam isn't going to buy that many machines. It's for other spending. — Altoona (Pa.) Mirror.

Governments are no different than individuals in money matters. If he individual fails to practice thrift, if he continually spends more than he earns, he's headed for trouble. So with a government. It may get by longer than the individual but there's always a day of reckoning.

So we can no longer afford mere talk about economy. We must insist that our lawmakers really practice "Sound as a dollar" once meant something. We must see that it means something again. — Elsinore (Calif.) Leader-Press.

There are legitimate magazine subscription solicitors but when they are on the up and up they do not mind going by city hall to pick up a license and by the chamber of commerce office to obtain a permit card for solicitation. And the best thing our readers can bear in mind is that they are probably being taken for a ride unless the solicitor can produce either one or both of those permits. — Tallahassee (Fla.) Tribune.

History will probably never record a greater error than America's recognition of the Communists—the first official act of "F.D.R." upon becoming president. Diplomatic recognition of the Soviets was just the "shot-in-the-arm" needed by these international gangsters or put their almost bankrupt regime back in business. — Des Plaines (Ill.) Suburban Times.

It is about time that education includes the idea that an individual attains satisfaction, not by getting everything or the highest honors for himself, or herself, but by serving society in his or her place, with distinction. — Somers (Ohio) Press.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Pulverized rock
- Novelty
- Heavenly body
- Curved molding
- Fruit drink
- Small opening
- In ill repute
- Household pet
- Girl's name
- Controversial
- Make believe
- Decay
- Observe
- Indian memorial
- Heavenly body
- First name
- Man's nickname
- Exit
- President substitute
- Struck
- Girl's name
- A state (abbr.)
- Salted
- Flowing pin
- Assist
- Anger
- Accomplish
- Plant in air
- Transference
- Lamb's pen
- Partner
- Terrid
- Stretch

DOWN

- Cleaning device
- Exchange premium
- Nickname
- Wart
- Small surface
- Girl's name

7-Hate
8-Shoveler
9-Pitch
10-Wild buffalo
11-Of India
12-Hind part
13-Man's nickname
21-Born
24-Trick, black substance opening
25-Japanese eash
26-Number
27-Rodent
28-Native metal
29-Crimson
30-Make believe
31-Decay
32-Observe
33-Indian memorial
34-Heavenly body
35-First name
36-Man's nickname
37-Exit
38-President substitute
39-Struck
40-Girl's name
41-A state (abbr.)
42-Salted
43-Flowing pin
44-Assist
45-Anger
46-Accomplish
47-Plant in air
48-Transference
49-Lamb's pen
50-Partner
51-Terrid
52-Stretch

43-Spanish for "house"
44-Coin
45-Spanish for "river"
46-European
47-Dobsonian cistaceae
48-Old Greek
49-coin
50-Spanish for "river"

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